

The California Undocumented Higher Education Coalition (CUHEC) is a statewide alliance of over 50 organizations representing students, educators, and community allies working to strengthen California's workforce and economy. We are dedicated to advancing college access, affordability, and success for undocumented students for the benefit of the state's communities, workforce, and economy. California is home to 87,000 undocumented students currently enrolled in California's colleges and universities; the largest in the nation. The State of California also enrolls 276,722 undocumented students in K-12 schools.

The current federal political climate has created deep unease among our state's undocumented students and their families. Threats to undocumented and immigrant communities by the federal government has undermined student safety, created unease for students seeking information to apply for or renew financial aid, and generally discouraged undocumented students from pursuing and completing a higher education. CUHEC's 2025 policy agenda addresses these issues to ensure that every student across California, regardless of their immigration status, can truly access and succeed in obtaining a higher education.


STATE FINANCIAL AID







SB 323 (Pérez) - SPONSOR - Requires that by the 2026–27 financial aid cycle, the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) amend the California Dream Act Application (CADAA) and any of its grant processing systems to clarify and ensure that the application can be used by any eligible student, regardless of the student's eligibility for federal financial aid. The bill also requires that CSAC consult with the segments of higher education in CA to promote the CADAA to maximize the amount of federal aid that students may access while notifying students of financial aid choices available to them.




STUDENT SUPPORTS


-  **AB 695 (Fong)** - Exempts a deported student from paying non-resident tuition at a California community college for the duration of the student's enrollment at the college when the student enrolls in an online education program after deportation and meets certain requirements.
-  **SB 12 (Gonzalez)** - Establishes the California Immigrant and Refugee Affairs Agency to enhance and reduce obstacles to immigrant and refugee inclusion. The Secretary of the Immigrant and Refugee Affairs Agency will be able to assist other state agencies in evaluating their programs for accessibility and effectiveness in providing services to immigrants and refugees.


IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT

-  **AB 49 (Muratsuchi)** - Prohibits school officials/employees at Local Education Agencies (LEAs) from collecting information regarding the citizenship status of students/their families and from allowing immigration enforcement to enter a schoolsite without providing valid identification; a signed judicial warrant; and approval from a respective school superintendent of a school district, county office of education, or principal of a charter school. If immigration enforcement meets these requirements then LEAs must only provide access to school facilities where students are not present.
-  **AB 419 (Connolly)** - Requires governing boards of LEAs to share the California Attorney General's Immigration-Enforcement Actions at California Schools Guide for Students and Families, with parents and guardians. The bill also requires LEAs to post the Guide in LEA administrative buildings, LEA internet websites, and each of its schoolsites, in every language that the Attorney General provides for the Guide.
-  **AB 421 (Solache)** - Requires law enforcement agencies to not collaborate with, or provide any information in writing, verbally, or in any other manner to, immigration authorities regarding proposed or currently underway immigration enforcement actions when the actions could be or are taking place within one mile of a childcare/daycare facility, a religious institution/place of worship, or a hospital or medical office. If passed, the bill would go into effect immediately as an urgency statute.
-  **SB 48 (Gonzalez)** - Prohibits LEAs from allowing immigration enforcement to enter a schoolsite without providing valid identification; a written statement of purpose; a signed judicial warrant; and approval from a respective LEA administrator. The bill also prohibits LEAs or its personnel from disclosing information about a student, their family, a school employee, or a teacher, without a valid judicial warrant or court order. If passed, the bill would go into effect immediately as an urgency statute.

IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT (CONTINUED)

 **AB 495 (Rodriguez)** - Authorizes a court, if a custodial parent is subject to an immigration action where the parent may be temporarily unavailable to care for their child, to appoint the custodial parent and a person nominated by the custodial parent as joint guardians of the person of the child. The bill also requires governing boards of LEAs to share the California Attorney General's Immigration-Enforcement Actions at California Schools Guide for Students and Families with parents and guardians and information related to plans for family safety and the importance of providing the school with, and regularly updating, emergency contact information. Additionally, the bill would require for licensed child day care facilities and employees of licensed child day care facilities to not collect information regarding the immigration status of students or their family members.

 **SB 98 (Pérez)** - Requires the governing board of a LEA to notify all teachers, staff, and other school community members that work on a school site, parents, and guardians, when the presence of immigration enforcement is confirmed on the school site. The bill also requires the California State University (CSU) and the California Community Colleges (CCC), and requests the University of California (UC) to, notify all students, faculty, staff, and other campus community members when the presence of immigration enforcement is confirmed on campus. If passed, the bill would go into effect immediately as an urgency statute.

 **SB 307 (Cervantes)** - Requires the CSU and the CCC, and requests the UC to, in the event that an undocumented student is subject to a federal immigration order, ensure that staff and the designated Dreamer Resource Liaison at the institution assist the student in accessing all financial aid and academic resources available to the student. Additionally, if the student's compliance with the federal immigration order affects the student's ability to satisfy academic requirements, then the institution should ensure the student's qualification for in-state tuition is not affected. Lastly, the above-listed segments of higher education are required and requested, respectively, to adopt a systemwide policy addressing course grades, administrative withdrawal, and re-enrollment for undocumented students who cannot attend their courses by the final drop date due to compliance of a federal immigration order. This policy must include a timeframe during which a student in this scenario who is withdrawn for non-attendance is re-enrolled and retains the same academic status before withdrawal, as long as the student submits written confirmation of their intent to return to the institution.